



USAID
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ROAD UPDATE

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Kandahar-Herat Highway

The Kandahar-Herat Highway connects the southern and western parts of Afghanistan. This 557 km stretch of highway is part of the “Ring Road”, which interlinks the main cities of Kabul, Kandahar, and Herat. USAID is funding 326 km of the Kandahar-Herat Highway, while Saudi Arabia and Japan are each responsible for a 116 km section. The Japanese have stopped construction due to recent security concerns. USAID is also funding the architecture/engineering (A/E) and management of the Saudi Section (Section 2).

USAID Section: Demining and mobilizing continues on **Section 2** (Km 115-231). In **Section 3** (Km 231-356), 77% of the first layer of asphalt treated base (ATB) has been laid, 74% of the second layer (Binder Course), and the final layer (Wearing Course) will begin soon. In **Section 4** (4A Km 356-406, 4B Km 406-456), production of pre-cast pipe and bridge materials continues on 4A and over 54% of both the first and second layer of asphalt is complete. On 4B, the first and second layers of asphalt are complete and placement of the final layer of asphalt is at 57%. In addition to pavement works, the first portions of the Double Bituminous Surface Treatment (DBST) of the shoulders has begun. In **Section 5** (Km 456-557), bridge and culvert works are continuing and over 43% of the first layer of asphalt and 24% of the second layer are complete.

USAID incorporates capacity building, a principal component of development and reconstruction assistance, into road reconstruction efforts in order to increase the participation and commitment of Afghans. During this period, 75% of the project's employees were Afghan nationals.



Kandahar-Herat Highway Sections

- Japanese Section
- Saudi Section (2)
- US Section 3
- US Section 4
- US Section 5



Bridge #4 beam installation on Section 4.



Lining drains at km 406, Section 4.



Taking core from the binder course at Km 456.

Focus on Urban Roads: Bibi Mahro

Road pavement, geometric design and electrical design work is ongoing. Asphalt removal works and saw cutting of all asphalt along the existing centerline continues. A leveling layer has been placed and base course placement is beginning this week. A security force for the project has been mobilized.

Guide for the Non-Road Engineers: Construction Flow



Provincial Roads Highlights

Security continues to delay progress on several provincial road projects.

Provincial Road	Progress to date
Kabul-Gardez Road (122km)	Asphalt treated base (ATB) work is complete from Km 3 -45 and Km 45 - 62. The asphalt wearing course (AWC) is complete from Km 22 - 45 , Km 45 - 54 and Km 71 - 83. Retaining wall and culverts complete in section 1; 39 Km of earthworks excavation and embankment complete in sections 2 and 3. Side road drainage and site cleanup works are ongoing. Bridge at Km 97+300 complete. Km 3-45 being readied for final inspection with signage and road markings in progress. For section 3, ground survey and design work is in progress.
Pul-e Alam to Ring Road (35 km)	Initial grading complete and being maintained. Earthworks ongoing Km 28 - 35, excavation ongoing, sub-base Km 0 - 18 complete, and base course Km 2 - 16 complete. First layer of DBST on-going or complete from Km 2 - 13.5. All base preparation and paving work on-going.
Jalalabad-Asmar Road (122 km)	Work halted on Km 0 – 20 due to contract expiration. Twenty Km of subbase and 9 Km of first layer base course have been placed in the section between Km 30 - 122. Second layer base course started. Culvert work has been completed at over 70 locations. Surveying and design work continues between Km 50 - 104. Contractor for main section (Km 30 -122) is behind schedule.
Kandahar-Tirin Kot Road (148 km)	Intense effort ongoing in the final section from Km 72 to 127. Base course is complete and DBST work is ongoing, with 42 Km of the first course complete and open to traffic. First course of DBST for this final section will be completed by September 15, 2005; second course to be completed soon after.
Panjsher Road (70 km)	Replacement contract for Section 1 will have separate awards for drainage and pavement. Section 2 road de-mining is complete, but some quarry areas still being worked. Survey and design are ongoing; base camp construction continues. Approximately 25% of excavation is complete.
Sheberghan - Sari Pul Road (54 km)	Bridge #1 and # 2 complete. Subbase complete from Km0 - 50. Base course complete from Km0 - 46. First course of DBST from Km0 – 42 and second course of DBST from Km0 – 25 complete. On schedule for completion this fall.
Farah-Ring Road (70 km)	Rough grading is complete. Detailed road alignment cross-sectional survey ongoing. Embankment works ongoing between Km62 - 70. One layer of granular embankment placed for 2.5Km within city limits for dust control.
Lashkar Gah-Ring Road (49 km)	Rough grading is complete. Five culverts in construction. Embankment work continues between Km35 – 36 and between Km37 – 38.
Ghazni-Sharan Road (57.5 km)	Work in camp area ongoing. Crushing of base course on-going. Demining continues from Km43 towards Sharan. Rough grading towards Ghazni complete. Earthworks on sections of cuts, surveying and staking ongoing. Embankment being placed between Km38 to 40.



Road-Related Security Incidents

September 8: Herat Province, Ghoryan District, 22km West of Ghoryan District Center. A private vehicle was hit by a landmine while a vehicle belonging to Ministry of Water and Energy (MoWE) was 50 meters away from the scene. The MoWE is jointly working with FAO on irrigation projects in the area. One person was seriously injured. It is not known whether the landmine was newly laid or an old one.

September 10: Kandahar-Herat Road, Zhari District. An IED exploded by a minibus. No casualties were reported and slight damage to the vehicle.